opening of new CGHS dispensary at Sector 82, NOIDA. However, opening of a dispensary depends upon availability of resources and *inter-se* priorities.

Non-availability of medicines in CGHS dispensaries

1276. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the medicines prescribed by various specialists are not readily available with the CGHS dispensaries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that a large quantity of medicines prescribed by various specialists lie unclaimed at the CGHS dispensaries after they are purchased locally for the beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, what action is taken to deal with such situations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Government has approved an exhaustive formulary of 504 proprietary items and 454 Generic Drugs and adequate quantity of these medicines are available in all the CGHS dispensaries. However, the medicines prescribed outside the formulary of drugs not available in the dispensaries are indented through Authorised local chemist. Where authorised local chemists are not available, CGHS beneficiaries are authorized to purchase the prescribed medicines from the market on reimbursement basis. Moreover, medicine is a dynamic subject and new formulations following the latest research are being introduced in the market and prescribed by the doctors in the interest of the beneficiaries and it is not feasible to stock all the medicines in the dispensaries.

(c) In all the CGHS dispensaries, "unclaimed registers" for indented medicines are maintained. In case indented medicines are not collected by the beneficiaries within 15 days, these medicines are taken in the unclaimed register and are given to the beneficiaries coming with similar prescription instead of indenting that particular medicines.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.